



WORKFORCE OBSERVATIONS

State of Wisconsin
Department of Workforce Development
Office of Economic Advisors

FOR SOUTHWEST WISCONSIN COUNTIES

GRANT, GREEN, IOWA, LAYAFETTE, RICHLAND, & VERNON

February 2004

As Typical for the season, Wintertime Unemployment Rates Increase

Few individuals were surprised in the increase in the January unadjusted unemployment rate in Southwest **Wisconsin**. The unadjusted unemployment rate rose from 4.9 percent in December to 6.6 percent in January. The increase of 1.7 percentage points is somewhat typical for the season. Despite the latest increase, the January Southwest Wisconsin rate remained a full percent below the 7.6 percent reading recorded in January 2003.

January's statewide unadjusted rate increased to six percent from 4.9 percent in November. Nationally,

struction and trade employment. Unemployment rates in 68 of Wisconsin's 72 counties were lower in January 2004 as compared to January 2003.

Compared with twelve months ago there are 1,800 more jobs in the region. All six Southwest Wisconsin counties increased their total employment as compared to last January. Industries leading the increase included business services and trade.

The January seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for the **Janesville/Beloit Metropolitan Area**

Area joins the ten other metropolitan areas in Wisconsin reporting decreases in their seasonally adjusted employment rates. All 11 Wisconsin metropolitan areas had lower seasonally adjusted rates in January 2004 than they had experienced last month. In addition, all 11 metropolitan areas had lower seasonal rates than recorded in January 2003.

Seasonally adjusted, the State of Wisconsin unemployment rate in January was five percent while the national rate was 5.6 percent.

Assistance sought from multiple worksite employers

Employers with operations in multiple locations (work sites) in Wisconsin are requested to complete a Multiple Worksite Report (MWR), PLEASE. Only affected employers are contacted and asked to complete the MWR during the first calendar quarter. All individual responses are kept confidential but collectively this valuable information is used: by business planners in economic development, forecasting, and wage analysis; by legislators in allocating dollars; and by individuals in making career decisions.

The department thanks the 3,300 employers who currently participate by reporting employment at over 25,000 work sites. For more information contact **Deb Holt** at 608.266.5321

Labor Force Estimates (Seasonally Adjusted)			
	Janesville-Beloit MSA	Wisconsin (000s)	United States (000s)
Current month: January 2004			
Civilian Labor Force	80,400	3,115.0	146,863
Employment	75,500	2,958.5	138,566
Unemployment	4,800	156.4	8,297
Unemployment rate	6.0%	5.0%	5.6%
Change from one month ago			
Civilian Labor Force	200	29.6	(15)
Employment	1,200	40.3	87
Unemployment	-1,100	-10.8	(101)
Unemployment rate	-1.3%	-0.4%	-0.1%
Change from one year ago			
Civilian Labor Force	2,200	62.3	988
Employment	2,500	81.6	1,119
Unemployment	-400	-19.4	(131)
Unemployment rate	-0.6%	-0.8%	-0.2%

Note: All estimates are preliminary and based on place of residence.

the unadjusted unemployment rate increased in January to 6.3 percent from 5.4 percent in December.

The unemployment rate rose in each of the six counties in the region in January but all six counties had lower unemployment rates than last January. The counties in Southwest **Wisconsin** followed a pattern statewide where unemployment rates increased from December led by seasonal declines in con-

struction and trade employment. was six percent, 1.3 percentage points lower as compared to December's revised reading of 7.3 percent. The six percent reading is 0.6 percentage points lower than last January's reading of 6.6 percent. The January 2004 Janesville/Beloit **Metropolitan Area** seasonal unemployment rate ranked 221st lowest out of the nation's 331 metropolitan statistical areas.

The Janesville/Beloit **Metropolitan**

Southwestern Wisconsin Workforce Development Area

January 2004	Grant	Green	Iowa	Lafayette	Richland	Rock	Region	Non MSA's *	Wisconsin
Civilian Labor Force**	25,504	18,277	15,528	7,595	8,963	79,461	155,328	75,867	3,086,003
Employed	23,792	17,156	14,748	7,006	8,481	73,955	145,138	71,183	2,902,336
Unemployed	1,712	1,121	780	589	482	5,506	10,190	4,684	183,667
Unemployment rate(%)	6.7	6.1	5.0	7.8	5.4	6.9	6.6	6.2	6.0
Total Nonfarm (NFWS) ***	18,400	14,000	11,800	3,490	6,000	66,200	119,900	53,700	2,741,100
Total Private	13,800	12,000	10,400	2,380	4,900	57,800	101,200	43,400	2,340,600
Goods Producing	3,200	3,400	1,000	530	1,900	18,000	28,000	10,000	613,600
Service Producing	15,200	10,600	10,800	2,960	4,100	48,200	91,900	43,700	2,127,500
Constr., Mining & Nat.Rsrcs	500	400	500	130	100	2,800	4,400	1,600	116,100
Manufacturing	2,700	3,000	600	400	1,800	15,200	23,600	8,400	497,500
Trade	2,600	3,100	6,800	670	1,100	12,600	26,800	14,200	439,700
Transportation & Utilities	400	300	300	170	100	2,600	3,900	1,300	327,100
Financial Activities	1,000	400	200	210	200	2,100	4,100	2,000	159,800
Education and Health Services	2,400	2,100	1,000	300	800	8,700	15,200	6,500	371,700
Leisure & Hospitality	1,600	1,000	600	210	400	5,600	9,500	3,900	233,500
Info., Prof. & Bus. Svcs, Other Svcs	2,700	1,700	500	300	400	8,200	13,800	5,600	417,900
Total Government	4,600	1,990	1,450	1,110	1,160	8,400	18,700	10,300	400,500
Federal	170	90	100	70	60	300	800	500	29,500
State	1,630	40	80	30	200	500	2,500	2,000	95,300
Local	2,800	1,860	1,270	1,010	910	7,600	15,400	7,800	275,700
Change from one month ago	December 2003								
Civilian Labor Force**	-360	-990	-340	340	280	800	-290	-1,100	20,900
Employed	-910	-1,320	-590	150	150	-400	-2,870	-2,500	-13,000
Unemployed	550	330	250	190	130	1,100	2,580	1,500	33,800
Unemployment rate(%)	2.2	2.0	1.6	2.4	1.3	1.3	1.7	2.0	1.1
Total Nonfarm (NFWS)***	-1,260	-1,530	-820	-20	-40	-1,600	-5,300	-3,700	-52,800
Percent change NFWS last month	-6.4%	-9.8%	-6.5%	-0.7%	-0.7%	-2.4%	-4.2%	-6.4%	-1.9%
Total Private	-600	-1,500	-700	-40	0	-1,300	-4,200	-2,900	-35,400
Goods Producing	-300	-100	-100	-40	0	-600	-1,100	-500	-13,300
Service Producing	-900	-1,400	-700	10	0	-1,000	-4,100	-3,100	-39,500
Constr., Mining & Nat.Rsrcs	-60	-70	-70	-20	-30	-200	-400	-200	-9,400
Manufacturing	-270	-30	-10	-20	30	-400	-700	-300	-3,900
Trade	-120	-1,020	-620	0	-50	-100	-1,900	-1,800	-6,900
Transportation & Utilities	-50	10	-10	-10	-10	-100	-200	-100	-6,400
Financial Activities	-60	0	0	20	0	0	0	0	-300
Education and Health Services	20	-50	10	10	50	-300	-200	100	-2,200
Leisure & Hospitality	-40	-20	-60	-10	-10	0	-100	-100	-3,500
Info., Prof. & Bus. Svcs, Other Svcs	-20	-340	10	-20	20	-200	-600	-400	-5,400
Total Government	-670	10	-70	20	-50	-300	-1,100	-800	-17,400
Federal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-700
State	-520	0	-10	0	-10	0	-500	-500	-5,400
Local	-140	10	-60	10	-40	-300	-500	-200	-11,300
Change from one year ago	January 2003								
Civilian Labor Force*	710	250	1,350	240	260	2,000	4,800	2,800	60,200
Employed	860	570	570	350	360	2,400	6,100	3,600	78,700
Unemployed	-150	-320	-140	-120	-100	-400	-1,300	-800	-18,500
Unemployment rate(%)	-0.8	-1.9	-1.5	-1.8	-1.2	-0.8	-1.0	-1.4	-0.7
Total Nonfarm (NFWS)***	30	20	890	20	40	800	1,800	1,000	30,600
Percent change NFWS last year	0.2%	0.2%	8.1%	0.5%	0.6%	1.2%	1.5%	1.9%	1.1%
Total Private	200	0	900	10	100	1,000	2,200	1,200	34,400
Goods Producing	-100	-100	-100	-30	0	-100	-400	-300	-7,500
Service Producing	100	100	900	50	0	900	2,200	1,300	38,100
Constr., Mining & Nat.Rsrcs	20	0	0	10	10	200	300	100	4,300
Manufacturing	-110	-100	-60	-40	0	-300	-600	-300	-11,800
Trade	-20	110	860	30	0	700	1,700	1,000	14,200
Transportation & Utilities	-20	10	0	-10	0	100	100	0	12,900
Financial Activities	30	0	20	0	-20	100	100	0	5,500
Education and Health Services	100	-20	40	20	60	0	200	200	11,900
Leisure & Hospitality	50	-30	-20	0	10	0	0	0	7,900
Info., Prof. & Bus. Svcs, Other Svcs	170	40	30	10	20	200	500	300	800
Total Government	-180	-10	10	10	-50	-200	-400	-200	-3,800
Federal	0	0	0	0	-10	0	0	0	-300
State	-20	0	0	0	40	100	100	0	2,700
Local	-170	-10	20	10	-90	-300	-500	-200	-6,200

* Five counties, excluding Rock County

** Includes participants residing in area.

*** Includes employment with employers located in area. Estimates above are NOT seasonally adjusted. Current month estimates are preliminary. Totals may not add due to rounding. NFWS data benchmarked to 3/2003

LABOR SURPLUS AREAS

The labor surplus designation is used by federal procurement offices in targeting contracts into areas of high unemployment. The following areas in Wisconsin received designation as labor surplus areas for the period October 1, 2003 through September 30, 2004:

During periods of high national unemployment, the 20 percent ratio is disregarded and an area is classified as a labor surplus area if its unemployment rate during the previous two calendar years was ten percent or more. This ten percent ceiling concept comes into operation whenever the two year average unemployment rate for all states was 8.3 percent or above (*i.e.*, 8.3 percent times the 1.20 ratio equals ten percent). Similarly, a "floor" concept of six percent is used during periods of low national unemployment

for an area to be classified as a labor surplus area. The six percent "floor" comes into effect whenever the average unemployment rate for all states during the two-year reference period was five percent or less.

Authorization for the labor surplus lists falls under Defense Manpower Policy No. 4, Executive Orders 12073 and 10582, and Public Law 96-302. The basic purpose of the program is to guide a portion of the government's procurement dollars into areas of severe economic need, which have been defined as areas of high unemployment. Employers located in an eligible area can receive preference in bidding on federal contracts.

<http://www.us.es.doleta.gov/lisa.asp>

Labor Surplus Areas October 01, 2003 Through September 30, 2004 Wisconsin

Eligible Labor Surplus Areas

Ashland County
Bayfield County
Beloit City
Balance Of Chippewa County
Clark County
Florence County
Forest County
Green Bay City
Iron County
Janesville City
Juneau County
Kenosha City
Langlade County
Manitowoc City
Marinette County
Marquette County
Menominee County
Milwaukee City
Oconto County
Polk County
Price County
Racine City
Rusk County
Washburn County

Civil Jurisdictions Included

Ashland County
Bayfield County
Beloit City In Rock County
Chippewa County Less Eau Claire City
Clark County
Florence County
Forest County
Green Bay City In Brown County
Iron County
Janesville City In Rock County
Juneau County
Kenosha City In Kenosha County
Langlade County
Manitowoc City In Manitowoc County
Marinette County
Marquette County
Menominee County
Milwaukee City In Milwaukee County
Oconto County
Polk County
Price County
Racine City In Racine County
Rusk County
Washburn County

Find the most current Labor Market Information at: WWW.DWD.STATE.WI.US/LMI

Direct questions and comments to: **William Brockmiller, Labor Market Analyst**

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